

## ***Warns Residents of Fake Census Scams***

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Charlie Wilson (OH-6) urged fellow residents of Ohio's Sixth Congressional District and all Ohioans to fill out their 2010 Census form. The Census is a vital tool of our democracy that impacts every community across the country.

The results of the Census will determine how more than \$445 billion in federal funds – for everything from schools to roads to senior centers – are distributed to state, local, and tribal governments over the next decade. It also affects representation in Congress and the Electoral College.

"We've always struggled to get our fair share," Wilson said. "We can't afford to be undercounted and lose vital funding."

The 2000 Census had a 67% national response rate, with an estimated undercount of more than 3 million people.

"There was a report by PriceWaterhouseCoopers recently that put a pricetag on undercounting," Wilson said. "Areas most affected by Census undercounting lose about \$2,913 in federal funds per uncouncted person. Our area just can't afford that."

While completing the official Census form is extremely important, Ohio residents should be wary of scams that attempt to collect personal information. The Census Bureau has received complaints about deceptive mailings that include envelopes marked "Census" and include a "census tracking code." People should review all mailings carefully to ensure that they are indeed from the Census Bureau. Official Census Bureau documents will never ask for your full social security number, money or a donation, PIN codes, passwords or similar access information for credit cards, banks or other financial accounts. Also, the Bureau never sends requests on behalf of a political party. If residents are suspicious of a mailing, they can contact Rep. Wilson's office, the Census Bureau, or the Postmaster General's office.

The 2010 Census is one of the shortest in U.S. history, consisting of only ten questions. The Census is conducted every ten years and consists of questions about the number of

people living in your home                      and some demographic information about them.

For additional information about the Census, please call Rep.                      Wilson's district office toll  
free at 888-706-1833 or visit <http://2010.census.gov> .